

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re: Application of: Dmitry J. RABKIN, et al.  
Serial No.: Not yet known  
Filed: Herewith  
For: APPARATUS FOR DELIVERING,  
REPOSITIONING AND/OR RETRIEVING SELF-  
EXPANDING STENTS

**LETTER RE PRIORITY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

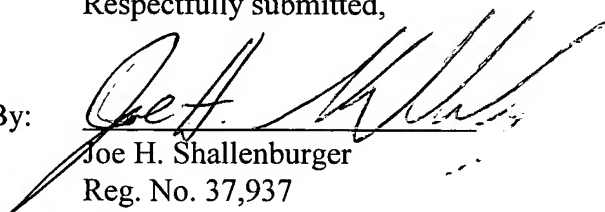
January 13, 2004

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the priority of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/845,098 filed April 27, 2001 of which the present application is a divisional thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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